

REMARKS

In an Office Action mailed on June 19, 2002, claims 1, 2, 5, 8, 9, 11-13 and 16-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated Arai; and claims 3, 14 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Arai and Helm. These rejections are addressed in the corresponding sections below. Newly added claims 21-40 are patentable over the cited art.

A marked-up version of the amended claims is submitted as a separate document. The undersigned has endeavored to ensure that the clean and marked-up versions of the amended claims correspond. However, the Examiner is specifically requested to verify that these two versions of the claims are consistent.

Rejections of Claims 1-11:

As amended, the method of claim 1 includes obtaining memory configuration information of a computer system. The computer system includes memory devices. The method also includes determining a memory capacity of the computer system and determining memory upgrade options to expand the number of the memory devices based on a residual memory capacity of the computer system.

In contrast, Arai neither teaches nor suggests expanding the number of memory devices of its disclosed computer system. In this manner, Arai teaches memory addressing schemes, such as expanded and extended memory addressing schemes. However, these schemes do not involve expanding the number of memory devices of the disclosed computer system. Thus, Arai does not teach all of the limitations of amended claim 1.

Claims 2-11 are patentable for at least the reason that these claims depend from allowable claim.

Rejections of Claims 12-17:

As amended, the program storage device of claim 12 is readable by a programmable control device and includes instructions for causing the programmable control device to obtain memory configuration information of a computer system. The computer system includes memory devices. The instructions cause the programmable control device to determine a

memory capacity for the computer system and determine memory upgrade options to expand the number of memory devices based on a residual memory capacity of the computer system.

In contrast, Arai neither teaches nor suggests determining memory upgrade options to expand the number of memory devices of a computer system. Thus, Arai neither teaches nor suggests the limitations of amended claim 12.

Claims 13-17 are patentable for at least the reason that these claims depend from an allowable claim. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejections of claims 12-17 is requested.

Rejections of Claims 18-20:

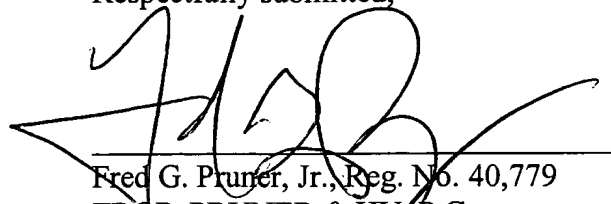
A computer system includes a processor, a system memory that is coupled to the processor and a configuration routine. The system memory has one or more memory modules and memory configuration. The memory modules include one or more memory devices. The configuration routine includes instructions to obtain memory configuration information, determine a memory capacity of the computer system and determine memory upgrade options to expand the number of memory modules based on residual memory capacity.

In contrast, Arai neither teaches nor suggests a configuration routine to determine memory upgrade options to expand a number of memory modules based on a residual memory capacity. Thus, for at least this reason, Arai fails to teach all of the limitations of amended claim 18. Claims 19 and 20 are patentable for at least the reason that these claims depend from an allowable claim. Therefore, withdrawal of the rejections of claims 18-20 is requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of the §§ 102 and 103 rejections and a favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance are requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504 (MCT.0102US).

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX

The claims have been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) A method [to provide memory upgrade information] comprising:
obtaining memory configuration information of a computer system, the computer system including memory devices;
determining a memory capacity of the computer system; and
determining memory upgrade options to expand the number of the memory devices based on a residual memory capacity of the computer system.
11. (Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising providing memory upgrade options to a user [use].
12. (Amended) A program storage device, readable by a programmable control device, comprising instructions for causing the programmable control device to:
obtain memory configuration information of a computer system, the computer system including memory devices;
determine a memory capacity for the computer system; and
determine memory upgrade options to expand the number of the memory devices based on a residual memory capacity of the computer system.
18. (Amended) A computer system comprising:
a processor;
system memory coupled to the processor, the system memory having one or more memory modules and a memory configuration, wherein the memory modules include one or more memory devices; and
a configuration routine including instructions to obtain memory configuration information, determine a memory capacity of the computer system, and determine memory upgrade options to expand the number of the memory modules based on a residual memory capacity.